

**Oak Ridge Elementary School
Faculty/Staff Questionnaire Results**

Survey conducted between May 29 and June 5, 2009

Completed Surveys: 50 of 88 faculty and staff

Average age of teachers and staff: 44 Age range: 25-61

Worked at school during the 08-09 school year: 96%

Worked at school during the 07-08 school year: 92%

Symptoms, 08-09

Headache: 92%

Of those reporting headaches, 54.3% reported daily, 43.5% sometimes, and 2.2% rarely

Dry Eyes: 74%

Of those reporting dry eyes, 70.3% reported daily, 27% sometimes

Unusual Sneezing Episodes: 30%

Of those reporting sneezing, 26.7% daily, 53.3% sometimes, and 13.3% rarely

Difficulty Breathing/asthma attacks: 28%

Of those reporting breathing problems, 42.9% daily, 50% sometimes, and 7.1% rarely

Nosebleeds: 26%

Of those reporting nosebleeds, 7.7% daily, 53.8% sometimes, 15.4% rarely

Rashes: 10%

Nausea: 14%

Sinus problems: 20%

Insomnia: 6%

Dizziness: 22%

Fatigue: 42%

Sore throat: 18%

Vision problems: 8%

Other symptoms written in:

Acid reflux: 6%

Vomiting: 2%

Allergy symptoms: 4%

Eczema: 6%

Bronchitis: 2%

Pneumonia: 2%

Metallic taste in mouth: 8%

Cough: 14%

Trouble concentrating: 6%

Trouble remembering: 14%

Losing voice/hoarse: 8%

Watery eyes:	4%
Dry skin:	2%
Dry throat:	6%
Red eyes/burning	14%
Ear pressure/ache	8%
Miscarriage	2%
Muscle cramp	2%
Body aches/pain	4%
Lacerations on eyes	2%
Reduced sensation of taste, smell	2%

of Symptoms reported: For the 2008-2009 school year, 6% of faculty/staff reported 0 symptoms, 10% reported 1 symptom, 6% reported 2 symptoms, 18% reported 3 symptoms, 22% reported 4 symptoms, 16% reported 5 symptoms, 12% reported 6 symptoms, 2% reported 9 symptoms, and 2% reported 10 symptoms.

Did persons seek care for symptoms in 08-09?

54% of all teachers/staff respondents sought care for their symptoms at a doctor's office, ER or hospital. The most common source of care was the doctor's office, with 24 persons reporting doctor visits. Reports of doctor visits range from one visit to more than 30 visits. Three individuals went to the emergency room for care, with one reporting 4 ER visits. Two persons were hospitalized for their symptoms.

Symptoms, 07-08

Headache: 72%

Of those reporting headaches, 36.1% reported daily, 58.3% sometimes, and 6.6% rarely

Dry Eyes: 56%

Of those reporting dry eyes, 42.9% reported daily, 53.6% sometimes

Unusual Sneezing Episodes: 16%

Of those reporting sneezing, 100% sometimes

Difficulty Breathing/asthma attacks: 14%

Of those reporting breathing problems, 28.6% daily, 71.4% sometimes

Nosebleeds: 10%

Of those reporting nosebleeds, 100% sometimes

Rashes: 0%

Nausea: 4%

Sinus problems: 18%

Insomnia: 2%

Dizziness: 4%

Fatigue: 20%

Sore throat: 8%

Vision problems: 6%

Other symptoms written in:

Acid reflux: 2%

Bronchitis: 2%

Cough:	2%
Trouble concentrating:	4%
Trouble remembering:	6%
Losing voice/hoarse:	2%
Red eyes/burning	10%
Body aches/pain	4%
Reduced sensation of taste, smell	2%

of Symptoms reported: For the 2007-2008 school year, 12% of faculty/staff reported 0 symptoms, 18% reported 1 symptom, 20% reported 2 symptoms, 10% reported 3 symptoms, 14% reported 4 symptoms, 4% reported 5 symptoms, 2% reported 6 symptoms, and 6% reported 7 symptoms.

Did persons seek care for symptoms in 07-08?

34% of all faculty/staff respondents sought care for their symptoms at a doctor's office, ER or hospital. The most common source of care was the doctor's office with 14 persons reporting doctor visits. Reports of visits range from one visit to 20 visits. Three individuals went to the emergency room for care, with one person going to the ER on 5 occasions. Two persons reported being hospitalized.

Is there a particular area of the building where persons experience more symptoms?

Rooms listed include 406, 407, 421, 209, 405, 501, 423, 425, 405, 500 (2), 514, 518, 520, 606, 613, and 617. Other areas include the media center (9 reports), lounge, main office (4 reports), Spanish room, 4/5 hallway (2 reports), testing room, and gym (2 reports)

Pre-existing health conditions:

Chronic respiratory disease:	2%
Undergoing chemotherapy or radiation therapy:	0%
Immune system suppressed by disease or other cause:	0%
Allergic rhinitis:	8%
Asthma:	8%
Seasonal allergies:	32%
Cystic fibrosis:	2%

When did symptoms start?

2007-2008 or earlier	58%
2008-2009	30%
Missing	12%

Of the symptoms being experienced, which are the worst?

Headaches	32%
Dry or itchy eyes	18%

Fatigue 18%
 Breathing 10%
 Coughing 6%
 Other symptoms listed: sinus problems, allergy symptoms, weight loss, dizziness, eczema on legs and arms, tightness in chest, metallic taste

When are symptoms generally worse?

Beginning of the week: 22%
 End of week: 38%
 Particular days: All week, 28%, Monday, 2%, Friday, 2%
 Morning: 30%
 Afternoon: 58%
 Particular times of day: After 4:00, 2%; All day, 8%; night time, 2%; random, 2%
 Spring: 56%
 Summer: 18%
 Fall: 44%
 Winter: 54%

Do symptoms go away after leaving the building: Yes = 72%, No = 18%

How long does it take for the symptoms to go away: no clear pattern; responses range from a few minutes to a few days.

Home Characteristics

Does respondent smoke? Yes = 4%, No = 92%

Are there others in household who smoke? Yes = 6%, No = 90%

House type: House = 90%, Other = 6%

Age of home: Mean 15 years old, range 2-40

Type of heat: Electric = 36%, Forced hot air = 10%, Gas = 46%, Oil = 2%, Steam = 2%

Number of persons in household: 1 = 10%; 2 = 28%; 3 = 20%; 4 = 34%; 5 = 4%

Pets in household: Yes = 58%, No = 38%

Type of pet: dogs, cats and gerbils

Humidifier: Yes = 24%; No = 72%

Wall to wall carpet: Yes = 48%, No = 48% **Water leaks?** Yes = 6%